

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of listing of claims, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid ionic compound comprising a cation which is a complex of a neutral ligand selected from the group consisting of ~~organic-substituted and unsubstituted~~ alkyl amines and crown ethers with a metal ion selected from the group consisting of Na⁺, K⁺, Li⁺, Ca²⁺, Ag⁺, Zn²⁺, Cu²⁺, Cd²⁺, Ni²⁺, Hg²⁺, Co³⁺ and Fe³⁺ and an anion which is a conjugate anion of the metal ion, wherein said anion comprises sulfur or phosphorous ~~said cation and said anion comprising a substantially new liquid.~~
 2. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is a liquid below 100°C.
 3. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 2 which is a liquid at room temperature.
 4. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is electrically conductive in the absence of a solvent.
 5. (Previously Presented) An ionic liquid according to claim 1 which is hydrophobic.
 6. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 wherein said neutral organic ligand is a crown ether.
 7. (Cancelled)
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8. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 wherein said conjugate anion is bis(trifluoromethane)sulfonimide, boron trifluoride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, hexafluorophosphate and dicyanamide.

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9. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a ~~substantially neat ionic liquid~~ ionic compound, the method comprising mixing a neutral ligand selected from the group consisting of organic ~~substituted and unsubstituted~~ alkyl amines and crown ethers with a metal ion selected from the group consisting of Na^+ , K^+ , Li^+ , Ca^{2+} , Ag^+ , Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , Co^{3+} and Fe^{3+} and with the salt of a metal cation and its conjugate anion at room temperature.

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10. (Original) A method according to claim ~~9~~ wherein said neutral organic ligand is a crown ether.

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11. (Original) A method according to claim ~~10~~ wherein the metal cation is selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, lithium and calcium.

12. (Cancelled)

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13. (Original) A method according to claim ~~12~~ wherein said metal cation is selected from the group consisting of silver, zinc, copper, cadmium, nickel, mercury and iron.

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14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9 wherein said conjugate anion is bis(trifluoromethane)sulfonimide, boron trifluoride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, hexafluorophosphate and dicyanamide.

15.-20. (Cancelled)

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